

March 18, 1974

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Barnett is not at his station, but I'd like to ask him where he got the information that it had been appropriated, or that the money was there. We don't need this amendment. It's confusing. Gee, I'm even on the committee and I don't know what's happening here.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President, it shouldn't be too confusing, but then I can understand, Senator Nichol, where it might be confusing. The words within appropriation are hard to explain, when you're not in the Appropriations Committee. I'm not in the Appropriations Committee, but I can, I think Senator Marvel explained it better than I, or Senator Clark, somebody on the Appropriations Committee, that there is money within the Highway Safety Department. They can transfer these Federal funds over to this area. All they need this money for is cash fund. They don't need it to get any of the program underway. They don't need it for any of the programs that are being in operation. What they send out ten or fifteen thousand to Scotts Bluff till the Federal funds come back into the Highway Safety Department to prevent you from waiting an extra month or two to get your Federal appropriation. It's a cash fund. That's all they want it for. It's a cash fund that's available. This money is there, within the Highway Safety Department. I wish somebody in Appropriations would use the right language, because I must not be using the right word when I say (inaudible).

PRESIDENT: You have one minute Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: OK. My only point is that you're saying this is true, Senator Barnett. The Chairman of the Appropriations Committee doesn't know that it is true. Thank you, that's all.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lewis, Frank Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, this Highway Safety Money, is that part of this Federal funds that we have fought over for two years on whether you wear a helmet or whether you have emergency medical services? Is there over \$2 million in that fund? Is that what they've been telling us? If there is, I'd like a good close look at where we're spending that money and what's it for, what kind of highway safety? I think before we get involved in this process, if we're going to start talking about three or four hundred thousand dollars, I'd like a close examination of where we're spending existing monies, are going. This bodies battled up and down the road on this issue. I'm one of those that have battled over it, because I was highly resentive of what was happening in terms of emergency medical services so we could get highway safety funds. Now that's not enough and we want to come back with another approach. I want a good hard look at that.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise in opposition to Senator DeCamp's amendment. I agree with Senator Marvel. I would like to . . . I think it's a mistake. It's a very serious mistake to allow any kind of lateral transfer of funds. I would like to have Senator Barnett return to his microphone and I'd like to ask him a few questions. If the Department of Motor Vehicles